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CHAMPION COAST REDWOOD TREE CLONES TO BE PLANTED AT CURRY COUNTY LOBSTER CREEK PARK

(Gold Beach, OR – February 26, 2015)   The non-profit **Archangel Ancient Tree Archive** will plant exact genetic duplicates of the largest and oldest champion coast redwood trees in the world at a special workshop on **Sunday, March 1ˢᵗ, at noon at Lobster Creek County Park - Curry County, Oregon**. The planting is in partnership with Curry County Parks & Recreation and Juvenile Departments to provide, protect and preserve the natural and scenic parks of Curry County and to demonstrate Curry County's commitment to sustainability strategies outlined in the *Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development Strategic Plan.*
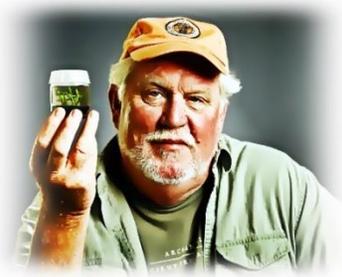
Directions to the Park

Archangel Ancient Tree Archive has used funds donated from over 200 private individuals to finance champion coast redwood tree production for this year's planting to further preserve the genetics of the largest and oldest living organisms on earth in an effort to assist with the migration of the species during coming climate changes. Co-sponsored by the Rare Tree Reserve, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, and the Arthur Sherman Davidson Family, this year's expanded plantings will occur at numerous private and public property locations up and down the coast, including Ocean Mountain Ranch, site of the *World's First Planting of a Champion Redwood & Sequoia Forest* located in the headwaters of the Port Orford Community Stewardship Area in Curry County, Oregon.

David Milarch and his life-long efforts to re-forest the world with his two sons, Jared and Jake, are the subject of a recent book by *New York Times* science writer Jim Robbins entitled *The Man Who Planted Trees: Lost Groves, Champion Trees, and an Urgent Plan to Save the Planet*. This book has documented Archangel's mission to clone the champion trees of the world - the largest, the hardiest, the ones that have survived millennia and are the most resilient to climate change - and create a kind of Noah's ark of tree genetics.

Initially, many scientists and tree experts said it couldn't be done, but now Archangel's team has successfully cloned some the world's oldest trees - including old growth coast redwoods and giant sequoias - and David says, *"We are working for our grandchildren!"* This theme is consistent and complimentary with Curry County's Juvenile Services Department planting partner, which has the purpose to aid and assist in any way that benefits the youth and community members as a whole in order to create a healthier community for generations to come.

Among the dozens of unique individual tree clones to be planted in Oregon will be a duplicate of the Fieldbrook coast redwood tree - a giant cut down over 100 years ago which measured 32.5 feet in trunk diameter and would surpass the General Sherman Sequoia as the largest tree on Earth.

The mission of Archangel Ancient Tree Archive is to propagate the world's most important old growth trees before they are gone, archive the genetics of ancient trees in living libraries around the world for the future, and reforest the Earth with the offspring of these trees to provide the myriad of beneficial ecosystem services essential for all life forms to thrive… *Scientists Seeking to Save World Find Best Technology is Trees*

"It's amazing for one layman to come up with the idea of saving champion trees as a meaningful way to address the issues of biodiversity and climate change. This could be a grass roots solution to a global problem. A few million people selecting and planting the right trees for the right places could really make a difference." -- Dr. Rama Nemani, Earth Scientist.